

BOOK ALERT

January/February 2007



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*Compiled and edited by Sanjay Kumar Bhagat, Public Affairs Section,
U.S. Embassy, New Delhi, India. Email: BhagatSK@state.gov*

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ARCHITECTURE & URBAN PLANNING

1. Gorman, Michael John.
Buckminster Fuller : designing for mobility / Michael John Gorman.
Skira, 2005. 207 p. REF 620 FUL

Although many books have been written about designer, architect, engineer, and philosopher R. Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983) and his visionary inventions, but Gorman has written a book that clearly stands apart. This title features 253 photographs, drawings, and blueprints – many of them never published before – selected from Fuller's own archive. Gorman's overall theme is that Fuller's lightweight, self-sufficient buildings were meant to travel (his geodesic domes have actually been airlifted by military helicopters). Not merely prefabricated, they were planned to be assembled in factories, and then flown to their sites. Gorman points out that while not regarded seriously in his youth, Fuller later received support from universities, corporations, and the military for his work. The text offers insight into some of Fuller's concepts, such as his manifesto for mass-produced housing and his thoughts on the role of mobile shelter in transforming behavior. This title presents a worthy reading on Fuller. -- (For use only in the Library) M
(Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

THE ARTS

2. America's art, Smithsonian American Art Museum / [project manager] Theresa J. Slowik ; foreword by Eleanor Harvey ; introduction by Elizabeth Broun. Smithsonian American Art Museum, , 2006. 322 p.
REF 709.73 SMI

To mark the grand reopening of the Smithsonian American Art Museum after several years on July 4, 2006, the museum created a capacious and colorful volume showcasing 225 diverse works from its varied and stellar collection. Expert and engaging commentary links the lushly reproduced artworks to the many-faceted story of America: its landscapes wild and cultivated, its small towns and big cities, its people indigenous and immigrant, and the myriad changes technology has instigated. Art itself has evolved in synchronization with social, political, and technological changes, a process clearly delineated in this stirring pageant, a procession that includes John Singleton Copley's 1765 portrait of the singularly self-possessed colonist

Mrs. George Watson; George Catlin's 1832 portrait of a Native American beauty, Sha-ko-ka; Albert Bierstadt's grand 1868 vision of the Sierra Nevada; Civil War-era photographs; Berenice Abbott's photographs of 1930s New York; Jacob Lawrence's paintings of African American life; works by Edward Hopper and Willem de Kooning; and a video installation by Nam June Paik. Here is American art in all its glory and innovation as a quest for understanding and connection, and a public collection that constitutes a genuine national treasure. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/M/ND
(Adapted from Booklist, ©2006)

3. Byars, Mel.
 The design encyclopedia / Mel Byars ; foreword by Terence Riley.
 Museum of Modern Art, ©2004. 832 p. REF 745.2 BYA

This definitive compendium of the world of modern design is the most comprehensive design reference guide that has been compiled from a number of primary and secondary sources. It incorporates all essential facts pertaining to modern design including furniture and product design, graphic design, objects designed by architects, and the various styles and schools of design of the late nineteenth, twentieth, and early twenty-first centuries. Here design is considered in terms of its concrete application to functional objects, relating it to craft, decorative arts, and industrial design. Illustrated with more than 700 full-color illustrations, it represents the last 130 years in the history of the design of furniture, lighting, fabrics, ceramics, glassware, metalware, objects in a range of other materials, and mechanical, electrical, and electronic appliances, as well as automobiles and some inventions. Entries are organized alphabetically and cross-references have been given as and when applicable making it easy to navigate. The compilation is quite comprehensive and keenly focused. People associated with design and designing would find it to be an essential guide. -- (For use only in the Library) C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005)

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

4. Badaracco, Joseph.
Questions of character : illuminating the heart of leadership through literature / Joseph L. Badaracco, Jr. Harvard Business School Press, ©2006. 221 p. 658.4092 BAD

The syllabuses for the business ethics classes taught by Badaracco read more like courses in the humanities than traditional business school curricula. In *Questions of Character*, Joseph L. Badaracco shares insights from eight classics that he explores in his MBA and executive education courses. These selections range from Sophocles' *Antigone* to Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*. For each work, Badaracco raises a question that illuminates an important aspect of character and allows readers to engage in what can become for them self-critiques related mainly to executive leadership. Through rich analysis of the main characters in the selected stories, Badaracco addresses complex issues leaders face, such as the soundness of their vision, their readiness to take on responsibility, the depth of their compassion, and their ability to manage success. Although we can't get inside the minds of leaders in the workplace to learn what makes them tick, exploring them through the lens of literature makes us intimately involved in the characters' lives as we digest their hopes, thoughts, decisions, actions, strengths, and flaws and learn what makes or breaks them. This literary angle will be appreciated by the leaders and aspiring leaders and will help them prepare for the opportunities and tests before them. -- C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2006)

5. Catlett, Lowell B.
Risk management in agriculture : a guide to futures, options, and swaps / Lowell B. Catlett, James D. Libbin. Thomson Delmar Learning, ©2007. 207 p. 630.681 CAT

Risk management in agriculture primarily addresses the issue of managing the risk of price changes in the agricultural sector. The price variation has its impact not only on the marketing of the product, but also on the overall financial health of the business. With the changing dynamics of the agricultural industry, the use of derivatives like futures contracts, options contracts, and swaps need to be seen as tools that could either be used solely or in combination to control price risk. Risk managers not only need to know which tool or their combination to be used, but also when they should be used.

Modern risk managers need to supervise the use of the speculations to enhance overall profitability. Although, major portion of the book is dedicated to the price risk management, it also addresses the management of other agricultural risks. To help readers understand the technical jargons, a complete glossary of terms has been included at the end of the book. -- C/CH/M/ND

6. Deshmukh, Ashutosh.
Digital accounting : the effects of the Internet and ERP on accounting /
Ashutosh Deshmukh. IRM Press, ©2006. 394 p. 657.0285 DES

The advent of the Internet and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) has provided a conceptual approach to handling the latest developments at the intersection of the accounting and IT fields. The book provides a foundation in digital accounting by covering fundamental topics such as accounting software, XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language), and EDI. It also offers a conceptual approach to handling the latest developments at the intersection of the accounting and IT fields. This convincing title is an attempt to capture the changes in accounting workflows, internal controls, and tools due to the electronic technology. The book would be particularly useful for the practicing accountants and auditors who want to familiarize themselves with the latest developments in this area. -- C/CH/M/ND

7. Dychtwald, Ken.
Workforce crisis : how to beat the coming shortage of skills and talent /
Ken Dychtwald, Tamara J. Erickson, Robert Morison. Harvard
Business School Press, ©2006. 269 p. 658.301 DYC

This timely book addresses the impact of the upcoming massive retirement of the baby boomer generation and the following shortage of skilled labor resulting in a workforce crisis in the United States. To survive, the companies would have to work in advance and reorient the workforce strategies and change their management and human resources practices to attract, engage and retain workers of all ages. Authors have classified the workforce into three categories – mature (55+ years old), mid-career (34-55 years old), and young (18-34 years old). These three sets of workers have completely different sets of temperament and career aspirations. Companies must create a work climate and flexible benefits catered to all the three age brackets. For ongoing success, the organizations will have to take measures today to ensure that they have skilled and committed workers tomorrow. -- C/CH/M/ND

8. The essentials of power, influence, and persuasion. Harvard Business School Press, ©2006. 289 p. 658.3 ESS

Power, influence and persuasion are the key ingredients of success for everybody especially for the people in the HR field. These skills can be learnt and this book offers the advice and tools for harnessing these skills. Power is the potential to allocate resources and to make and enforce decisions. In today's corporate world, power is no longer absolute. On the contrary, it is divided among the managers, executives, directors, and shareholders. Thus, the individual absolute power is now distributed in many components. This has led to the growing importance of influence and persuasion in the corporate HR departments. Influence, which is an extension of power, is the mechanism through which one can change others' behavior or attitudes. It does not include execution of force, compulsion or direct command. It can even be exercised by those who have no formal power. It is a very important trait expected from modern managers. Similarly, persuasion, which has no coercive component, can be used to change or reinforce the attitudes, opinions, or behaviors of others. Today's corporate world operates with the help of power, influence, and persuasion. They are indispensable to the organizational and interpersonal functions. -- C/CH/M/ND

9. Govindarajan, Vijay.
10 rules for strategic innovators : from idea to execution / Vijay Govindarajan, Chris Trimble. Harvard Business School Press, ©2005. 224 p. 658.406 GOV

This book is guided by the forces that lead a company to the road of success. It provides a roadmap for today's entrepreneurs who wish to foster the development of new business concepts in a way that insulates them from standard corporate processes but allows them to draw on valuable corporate assets. Based on an in-depth study, the authors identify three central challenges for a company to succeed in today's emerging uncertain market – forgetting, borrowing, and learning. The messages conveyed in this book are executable and works well in today's business environment. -- C/CH/M/ND

10. Harvard business review on appraising employee performance. Harvard Business School Press, ©2005. 186 p. 658.3125 HAR

The importance of performance appraisals is fast catching up in the corporate world these days. Businesspeople around the globe are now

identifying the importance of appraisals in improving the performance of the employees. In this compilation of articles by the experts in the field of human resources, organizational behavior, psychology, and also by academics and consultants in leadership, employees' review process has been reviewed from many angles. It also seeks to investigate as to how the appraisal process can be customized to best suit the employee in question. This collection would be very helpful for those concerned with retaining their star performers and guiding the underperformers. Readers introspecting their own performance will also find the articles supportive in improving their own performance. The book definitely gives a new vision in best exploiting employee appraisals in more productive ways. -- C/CH/M/ND

11. Kim, W. Chan.
Blue ocean strategy : how to create uncontested market space and make the competition irrelevant / W. Chan Kim, Renée Mauborgne. Harvard Business School Press, ©2005. 240 p. 658.802 KIM

This groundbreaking book seeks to give a completely new perspective to the way companies perceive growth, see their competitors and their strategy to beat them, and take their market share. Kim and Mauborgne present a non-competitive approach for achieving high business growth through the development of uncontested market space with practically limitless potential. Their blue ocean metaphor elegantly summarizes their vision of expansion, competitor-free markets that innovative companies can navigate. They argue that cutthroat competition results in nothing but a bloody red ocean of rivals fighting over shrinking profit pool. Unlike "red oceans," which are well-explored and crowded with competitors, "blue oceans" represent untapped market space and the opportunity for highly profitable growth. The only reason more big companies don't set sail for them, they suggest, is that the dominant focus of strategy work over the past twenty-five years has been on competition-based red ocean strategies – finding new ways to cut costs and grow revenue by taking away market share from the competitors. Kim and Mauborgne aim to repair that bias. Using dozens of examples – from Southwest Airlines and the Cirque du Soleil to Curves and Starbucks – they present the tools and frameworks they have developed specifically for the task of analyzing blue oceans. They urge companies to value innovation that focuses on utility, price, and cost positions, to create and capture new demand and to focus on the big picture, not the numbers. While their analytical tools may be of real use only to serious strategy planners, their overall vision will inspire entrepreneurs of all scales. Most of their ideas are presented in a direct, jargon-free manner. It is a precise, actionable plan for

changing the way companies do business. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

12. Marquardt, Michael J.
The manager as mentor / Michael J. Marquardt and Peter Loan.
Praeger, ©2006. 191 p. REF 658.3124 MAR

In today's rapidly changing environment managers have a challenging role of mentoring and inspiring the people around them to learn. This resource for business managers explains how they can improve their organizations' chances for success by developing the capacity for mentoring others. Diagnostic exercises help readers to assess their strengths and weaknesses and create an action plan for becoming an effective mentor. The authors also review some current trends in mentoring, such as cross-cultural partnerships and action learning. -- (For use only in the Library) CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Book News, Inc.*, ©2006)

13. Pfeffer, Jeffrey.
Hard facts, dangerous half-truths, and total nonsense : profiting from evidence-based management / Jeffrey Pfeffer, Robert I. Sutton. Harvard Business School Press, ©2006. 276 p. 658.403 PFE

In this outstanding and candid book, Pfeffer and Sutton debunk several managerial practices and challenge leaders to commit to evidence-based management as a way of organizational life. The existing common practices are often so well established that no one seemed to question them until the authors came along. In doing so, they demonstrate how companies can bolster performance and trump the competition through evidence-based management, which is an approach to decision-making and action that is driven by hard facts rather than half-truths or hype. According them, the decisions and actions should be fact-based and should be the product of logical thinking. Despite the fact that this evidence-based management is not that common among public and private sector managers, it has taken its hold in medicine and is spreading to education and public policy. Authors disapprove blind embracing of the existing practices and describe how to identify and apply practices that are best for the companies. The book is full of intriguing thoughts and is packed with practical wisdom. -- C/CH/M/ND

14. Richman, Larry L.
Improving your project management skills / Larry Richman. American Management Association, ©2006. 206 p. 658.404 RIC

Improving Your Project Management Skills is based on the American Management Association's seminar of the same name. the book encompasses all major areas covered in the AMA seminar and provides step-by-step guidelines on different aspects of project management – team leadership; scope of project; work breakdown; activity sequencing; analysis of time, cost, and resources; planning and budgeting; monitoring and controlling; completion of the project; and documentation. The powerful tools included in this title will help streamline project execution and will also reduce cost. At the same time, it will also enhance productivity of the project. The book would prove to be powerful learning tool and a workplace reference for both beginners as well as the veterans. -- C/CH/M/ND

15. Schwalbe, Kathy.
Introduction to project management / Kathy Schwalbe. Thomson, ©2006. 316 p. 658.404 SCH

This is a concise and introductory book on project management that provides up-to-date information on how good project, program, and portfolio management can help achieve organizational success. Today, the success of most organizations depends on their project management capabilities, and there is a growing industrial demand for this skill. This book caters to this demand and presents a framework for understanding and effectively exploiting project management in the real-world situation. It is practical in approach and includes many real-world examples that examine the factors leading to the success or failure of the project. It talks about applying different tools and techniques to a realistic project. The business world is dynamic and business environmental factors are fast changing. The book takes this fact into consideration and admits that a conventional approach would not work well in today's circumstances. That's why it emphasizes upon the tools and techniques that will work well in today's business circumstances. -- C/ND

16. Sheffi, Yossi.
The resilient enterprise : overcoming vulnerability for competitive advantage / Yossi Sheffi. MIT Press, ©2005. 338 p. 658.7 SHE

In this visionary book, Sheffi examines the supply chain breakdowns at companies like Amazon, Dell, General Motors, Intel and so on to show that disaster might not be frequent but it is inevitable. *The Resilient Enterprise* explores how various companies dealt with major disruptions in the last two decades. Sheffi provides tools for companies to reduce the vulnerability of the supply chain they live in. This is a crucial book for anyone involved in operations and logistics to recognize the importance of building a truly flexible organization that can not only survive but thrive in a risky world. -- C/CH/M/ND

17. Turban, Efraim.
Introduction to information technology / Efraim Turban, R. Kelly Rainer, Jr., Richard E. Potter. 3rd ed. John Wiley & Sons, ©2005. REF 658.05 TUR

Current digital revolution poses the challenge of sustenance to today's business organizations. Despite transforming business landscape and intense competitive global market, the organizations have to sustain their profit. Information technology provides the tools that enable today's corporate functional specialists to perform with high degree of efficiency. Information Technology is the basis for aggressive proactive strategies that can radically alter the competitive landscape of an industry. IT integrates and enhances all functions of a business – from the research and development that goes into designing a faster, more flexible board, to the delivery systems that make sure stores receive stock in time for winter, to the point-of-sale systems that track sales trends and customers' buying preferences. The book focuses primarily on the application of the IT concepts to facilitate business processes. Written in simple comprehensible language, the text presents complex technical information on a need-to-know basis. The book is practical in its approach and is filled with numerous real-world examples that demonstrate IT's relevance to different disciplines, industries, and companies. -- (For use only in the Library) C/ND

COMMUNICATION

18. Beasley, Maurine Hoffman.
First ladies and the press : the unfinished partnership of the media age /
Maurine H. Beasley ; foreword by Caryl Rivers. Northwestern
University Press, ©2005. 335 p. 973.91 BEA

First Ladies and the Press investigates how U.S. presidential wives have handled journalists and media. The book starts with Eleanor Roosevelt and her women-only press conferences, which put the first lady into a symbiotic news-making relationship with the reporters who covered her. Her interaction with the media led to the beginning of a partnership between the press and the American presidential wife. Today, in the early twenty-first century, first lady is the single most visible symbol of American womanhood. Maurine H. Beasley opines that the coverage of first ladies reflects quandaries over news values related to women and incorporates societal strains over changing gender roles in American life. Looking at the personal interaction between each first lady from Martha Washington to Laura Bush and the mass media of her day, she traces the growth of the institution of the first lady as a part of the American political system. Her work reveals that the media coverage of the first ladies has not adequately reflected the importance of their role. -- C/CH/M/ND

19. Stanley, William D.
Electronic communications : principles and systems / William D.
Stanley, John M. Jeffords. Thomson Delmar Learning, ©2006. 702 p.
621.382 STA

This informative book incorporates overall general principles that govern all communications systems. Broad in its content coverage, the topics include traditional analog communication techniques such as AM and FM, modern digital systems, telecommunications, radar, microwaves, networking, and many other areas. In order to make enhance its accessibility, the mathematical techniques in this book have been kept to a relatively modest level. The title provides practical exposure to some of the sophisticated analytical techniques such as Fourier transforms, spectral analysis, and the performance of systems in the presence of noise. Where appropriate, the book includes circuit diagrams, but it emphasizes on the signal processing at a block diagram or systems level. Instead of going into the intricacies of internal details of the circuits, the book looks into the signal processing aspect of

the circuits. It gives a general overview of the communication systems and provides the readers a broad picture before they deal with the individual parts. -- C/CH/M/ND

ECONOMICS

20. Domenici, Pete.
A brighter tomorrow : fulfilling the promise of nuclear energy / Pete V. Domenici with Blythe J. Lyons and Julian J. Steyn. Rowman & Littlefield, ©2004. 271 p. 333.7924 DOM

Senator Pete V. Domenici, in *A Brighter Tomorrow*, takes a proactive and provocative look at the contemporary American energy resources to arrive at the conclusion that nuclear power must be the primary source of energy for the future of the United States. The book presents a thoughtful assessment of the progress Americans have made in their efforts to bring the benefits of nuclear power to mankind. Domenici argues the importance of increasing dependence on nuclear power for electricity in the twenty-first century. Outlining what went wrong and why, he prescribes what Americans must do to recover from and repudiate past mistakes. He calls for a renewed commitment, by the Americans and the rest of the world, to the role nuclear power can play in providing safe electricity to stem the tide of global warming and environmental disaster. -- C/CH/M/ND

21. Energy and security : toward a new foreign policy strategy / edited by Jan H. Kalicki and David L. Goldwyn. Johns Hopkins University Press, ©2005, 604 p. 333.79 ENE

Energy and its procurement have been central to the United States' position as a world power. The book argues that energy policy of the last half century has produced excessive dependence on unstable and repressive governments. A few academics, but mostly contributors from government agencies, energy companies, and development and security consultancies around the world offer their insights into the current and future connections between energy and security. They cover the global framework, Russia and Eurasia, the Middle East and Africa, the North Atlantic and the Americas, and a new energy security strategy. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005*)

22. Hippel, Eric Von.
Democratizing innovation / Eric Von Hippel. MIT Press, ©2005.
204 p. 338.064 HIP

Eric Von Hippel presents a path-breaking research to illustrate a major paradigm shift in innovation, which is rapidly becoming democratized. He identifies important aspects of technological innovation that run contrary to conventional wisdom and to the thrust of conventional scholarship. *Democratizing Innovation* takes a closer look at the emerging system of user-centered innovation. Democratization of innovation is more evident in the software and information products especially in the free and open-source software trends. Apart from the software industry, this trend is also visible in many physical products like surgical equipment, surfboards, and many more. Hippel looks at why users want customized products, why it is more advantageous for them rather than the manufacturer to make the changes, why they freely share their innovations with other, and the need for governments to encourage user innovation by refining their policies to eliminate the biases. -- C/CH/M/ND

23. Jaccard, Mark Kenneth.
Sustainable fossil fuels : the unusual suspect in the quest for clean and enduring energy / Mark Jaccard. Cambridge University Press, 2005.
381 p 333.82 JAC

Sustainable Fossil Fuels takes a fresh look into the ongoing debate about the conventional energy sources and the major challenges posed by them. Everybody seems to be concerned about the oil-supply-insecurity and emission of pollutants like carbon dioxide. There is a growing concern that we must quickly wean ourselves from fossil fuels – oil, natural gas and coal – to save the planet from environmental catastrophe, wars and economic collapse. In professor Jaccard's opinion, this view is deceptive. We need to reorient our perception of the existing scenario and take into account a lot more factors, which have not been critically evaluated. He emphasizes exploiting our technological capabilities, so that fossil fuels can be used in a cleaner way without emitting climate-threatening greenhouse gases or other pollutants. Jaccard believes that fossil fuels are likely to provide a significant resource to the global energy system during a gradual transition to a sustainable global energy system, perhaps over a period of more than a century. The transition from conventional oil and gas to their unconventional sources will decrease energy dependence on politically unstable regions, jeopardizing the economic and social development of the world's poorer countries. *Sustainable Fossil*

Fuels advocates a convincing argument for the continued judicious use of fossil fuels while seeking alternative sustainable energy choices. Those interested in learning how to make fossil fuel-based economies more sustainable will enjoy going through the pages of this book. -- C/CH/M/ND

24. Morris, Charles R.
The tycoons : how Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, Jay Gould, and J.P. Morgan invented the American supereconomy / Charles R. Morris. H. Holt and Co., ©2005. 382 p. 338 MOR

Morris has done an impressive job of profiling the compelling portrait of the four big "robber barons" of post-Civil War America – Andrew Carnegie, steel magnate, characterized as annoying and cruel; John D. Rockefeller, the direct and understated visionary who founded Standard Oil; Jay Gould, perhaps the most vilified of them all, who made his fortune in railroads; and J. P. Morgan, who, groomed for the financial trade, became the world's banker. Although all four would probably have excelled in any era, it was the machine age, the move from an agricultural to a manufacturing society, and the concurrent rise of mass consumption, that created an environment for their mega success. Morris shows how the inventiveness and spirit of the American worker in the later 1800s led the U.S. economy surge past Great Britain's to become the world's top producer. Scientific Management of factories created interchangeable parts and assembly lines, bringing branded foods and labor-saving home appliances to the American people. *The Tycoons* tells the incredible story of how the four determined men wrenched the U.S. economy into the modern age that was difficult to be imagined a decades earlier. The book may challenge the readers who do not have strong grounding in economics, but will certainly fascinate the advanced readers of economics with its original angle on the robber barons. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from Booklist, ©2005)

EDUCATION

25. Gordon, Virginia N.
Career advising : an academic advisor's guide / Virginia N. Gordon. Jossey-Bass, ©2006. 148 p. 378.194 GOR

This book sheds light on the prevailing educational choices for the college students and how they shape their further career. Today, the students

are confronted with the challenges of existing knowledge-based economy. Thus, the students need to be adequately informed about the various possibilities in their perspective field of study, and at the same time the knowledge and skills acquired by them during their academic years should be marketable. The book is an excellent resource for career advisors and counselors, and also for the academicians. It would be very helpful for them in guiding the students in understanding and opting for the best academic and career choices. -- C/CH/ND

26. The public schools / Susan Fuhrman, Marvin Lazerson, editors. Oxford Univeristy Press, ©2005. 388 p. 371.01 PUB

This volume is a collection of essays by leading scholars and educators scrutinizes the role of education in the society. The text addresses several of the major challenges facing public education: How much control should local school boards have? What are the pros and cons of school vouchers? What role should schools play in making students good citizens and members of their communities? How does the American education system compare with those of other countries? Educators and scholars explore these topics and offer their expertise and ideas on a range of issues related to democracy and public education. This work will appeal to the audience having academic interest. -- ND (*Adapted from Library Journal*, ©2005)

27. Student success in college : creating conditions that matter / George D. Kuh ... [et al.]. Jossey-Bass, ©2005. 370 p. 378.1 STU

In this title, Kuh illustrates how the policies, programs, and practices used by a diverse set of institutions to promote student success, could be used as a guiding force by the others to improve student success and achievement. Examples from 20 institutions identify programs that work and shed light on the relationships between student engagement and learning. This book provides concrete examples of what different types of institutions can do to help different types of students succeed in college at higher rates. It synthesizes principles that guide the work of faculty and staff at these effective institutions and recommends practices for enhancing student success. -- CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc.*, ©2004)

ENVIRONMENT

28. Burde, John H.
Mammals of the national parks / John H. Burde and George
A. Feldhamer. Johns Hopkins University Press, ©2005. 212 p.
REF 599.0973 BUR

America's national parks are inhabited by hundreds of species of wild mammals. This breathtaking book brings alive the wonder and beauty of these national treasures of the United States. Vivid photographs of both the mammals and the parks provide rare glimpse of the natural habit and habitats of these mammals in each of the American national parks. The book presents history and description of each park in addition to the conservation issues and tips on sighting particular animal. Appearances, behavior, range, and feeding habits of each mammal is also described. The book is a wonderful consolidation of the details on a subject that would receive special appreciation from environmentalists and naturalists. -- (For use only in the Library) M

29. Feeling the heat : dispatches from the frontlines of climate change /
edited by Jim Motavalli. Routledge, ©2004. 194 p. 551.5253 FEE

This collection of essays by a brilliant team of environmental journalists incorporates reports from the climate front. Global warming is no longer a subject of debate. It has already moved out of the realm of armchair speculations and arcane scientific debate. Its impact is evidently visible from the thawing Arctic to the rising shoreline of Manhattan. It is increasingly posing to be a matter of survival and is quite apparent from the facts like ever breaking temperature records, increasing frequency of violent storms, melting icebergs, rising sea level, several species losing their habitat and so on. Well-known authors explore the actual world "hot" spots, where people are already coping day-to-day with the consequences of climatic disruptions. Richly illustrated with photographs, the book provokes serious reading. -- C/CH/ND

30. Pernetta, John.
Guide to the oceans / John Pernetta. Firefly Books, 2004. 240 p.
REF 551.46 PER

Guide to the Oceans is an authoritative and richly illustrated handy reference book that provides comprehensive information about almost every aspect of the world's oceans and seas. Loaded with vibrant color photographs, maps, artwork and well-organized data, this small book contains a great deal of information. In this well-illustrated pocket guide, Pernetta overviews up-to-date information about the oceans including their origins, chemistry, role in climate, food chains, recreation options they offer, exploration, and resources. He also discusses the human impact on coastal erosion. The book includes an atlas of the world's oceans and an encyclopedia of marine life. The guide is sure to appeal to a very wide audience. -- (For use only in the Library) C
(Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2004)

HISTORY & CIVILIZATION

31. Bender, Thomas.
A nation among nations : America's place in world history / Thomas
Bender. Hill and Wang, 2006. 368 p. 973 BEN

A Nation Among Nations is a provocative book that places American history firmly in global context. In this book, Bender reframes American history advocating that America's past must be seen as a component of worldwide story. From the colonization of the New World in the 16th century to the social reforms of the early 20th century, America's triumphs and travails have shaped and been shaped by decisions, people and trends in Europe, Africa and Asia. Bender emphasizes five major themes in U.S and world history: the "discovery" of the New World and the beginning of global history, the American Revolution in the context of competition among empires, the Civil War in the context of European revolutions of 1848, the U.S. as an empire among empires in the late 1800s, and American social liberalism as part of the global response to industrialization. Finally, he examines how U.S. history has been, and continues to be, bound up with the world history and how a broader perspective can aid international relationships. -- C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from Booklist, ©2006)

32. Diamond, Jared M.
Guns, germs, and steel : the fates of human societies / Jared Diamond.
Norton, ©2005. 518 p. 303.4 DIA

Guns, Germs, and Steel is a brilliant work answering the question of why the peoples of certain continents succeeded in invading other continents and conquering or displacing their peoples. In this book, Jared M. Diamond illustrates that why Western civilization became hegemonic. Differences among peoples' environments, rather than the biological differences among peoples themselves, led to different courses of history for different peoples in different geographical areas. Those who domesticated plants and animals early got a head start on developing writing, government, technology, weapons of war, and immunity to deadly germs. The book chronicles the way in which the modern world, and its inequalities, came to be. -- C/CH/M/ND

33. Philbrick, Nathaniel.
Mayflower : a story of courage, community, and war / Nathaniel Philbrick. Viking, ©2006. 461 p. 973.2 PHI

Mayflower explores the history of Plymouth Colony. In the early 17th century, a small group of devout English Christians fled their villages to escape persecution, going first to Holland, and then making the now infamous 10-week voyage to the New World. Rather than arriving in the summer months as planned, they landed in November, low on supplies. Luckily, they were met by the Wampanoag Indians and their wizened chief, Massasoit. In economical, well-paced prose, Philbrick masterfully recounts the desperate circumstances of both the settlers and their would-be hosts, and how the Wampanoags saved the colony from certain destruction. Indeed, there was a first Thanksgiving, the author notes, and for over 50 years the Wampanoags and the Pilgrims lived in peace, becoming increasingly interdependent. But in 1675, 56 years after the colonists' landing, Massasoit's heir, Philip, launched a confusing war on the English that, over 14 horrifying months, claimed 5,000 lives, a huge percentage of the colonies' population. Impeccably researched and expertly rendered, Philbrick's account brings the Plymouth Colony and its leaders, including William Bradford, Benjamin Church and the bellicose, dwarfish Miles Standish, vividly to life. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

34. Roth-Douquet, Kathy.
AWOL : the unexcused absence of America's upper classes from the military – and how it hurts our country / Kathy Roth Douquet and Frank Schaeffer. Collins, ©2006. 241 p. 355.2 ROT

In this impassioned, convincing manifesto, Schaffer and Roth-Douquet call for class integration of the American military. Their arguments are personal. They relate their experiences with the military and detail the liabilities of the present all-volunteer "corporate" force: the hindered policy-making ability of a civilian leadership without significant ties to the military, the weakening of the armed forces themselves, and "the sense of lost community and the threat to democracy that results when a society accepts a situation that is inherently unfair. While Schaffer proposes a lottery draft and Roth-Douquet suggests the military "convince" people to sign up, they both call for the young Americans to submit to some form of national civilian service. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

35. Schama, Simon.
Rough crossings : Britain, the slaves, and the American Revolution / Simon Schama. Ecco, 2006. 478 p. 973.3 SCH

The plummy voice, ringing with the sound of perfectly enunciated consonants and gently undulating vowels, immediately rouses images of the ancient stone walls of Oxford and Cambridge. Schama's posh accent takes every line of his new book, every scrap of quoted dialogue, rolls them around in his mouth and gives them the shape and punch of a particularly well-formulated cocktail party bon mot. Schama's subject is not quite so lighthearted. Studying the lives of slaves and ex-slaves around the time of the American Revolution, Schama finds brutality, horror and the ever-present threat of a return to slavery, leading many blacks to embrace the British cause and the hope of freedom. The book's strength is the discussion of Sierra Leone, in which Schama uses original source material to create an absorbing real-life tale. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

36. Warren, Louis S.
Buffalo Bill's America : William Cody and the Wild West Show / Louis S. Warren. Knopf, ©2005. 652 p. 978.02 BUF

Was William "Buffalo Bill" Cody (1846-1917) a genuine man of the West or just a tremendously successful showman? To answer that

question, Warren does not simply write a biography but analyzes the cultures of the eastern United States and Europe and their relationship with that of America's West. Using Cody's 1879 autobiography as a point of reference, he addresses the complex issue of mythmakers' self-awareness, speculating on Cody's motives for often manipulating the truth. He defines Cody as a showman of the first order but also establishes that he did fight in the Civil War, did kill numerous buffalo, and did scout for the army. In keeping with recent Western historiography, Warren considers the significance of the railroads in the development of the West. He also examines Cody's complex relationship with the Indians, particularly the Lakota in his Wild West Show, and considers the significance of Cody's presenting himself as a defender of hearth and home. Warren's book is extremely readable and, although wide-ranging, is constructed with well-defined chapters that never lose the reader. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from Library Journal, ©2005)

INFORMATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

37. Aesthetic computing / edited by Paul Fishwick. MIT Press, ©2006. 457 p. 004 AES

Aesthetic Computing attempts to evaluate the influence and application of aesthetics on computing. It brings together the key intellectuals from the field of art, design, computer science, and mathematics to lay the foundations for a discipline that applies the theory and practice of art to computing. It explores the way in which art and aesthetics have and can modify computer science. The hypothesis behind aesthetic computing is that the computing will enhance if it embraces all of aesthetics. *Aesthetic Computing* approaches its subject from a wide variety of perspectives. The essays included range from the art of visualization and "the poesy of programming" to discussions of the aesthetics of mathematics throughout history and transparency and reflectivity in interface design. -- C/CH/M/ND

38. Burgett, James.
Collaborative collection development : a practical guide for your library / James Burgett, John Haar, Linda L. Phillips. American Library Association, 2004. 211 p. 025.21 BUR

The power of collaboration is time tested and it becomes more relevant in the contemporary information age. Libraries and information

centers with similar mission can go a long way in this direction, beating their limitations and extending both qualitative and quantitative services to their patrons. Collaborative collection development requires systematic planning, selecting appropriate partners, and a long-term commitment from all parties. This practical guide shares the experiences of three leaders whose institutions have successfully collaborated for a decade, which can provide direction and motivation for others to follow. This book not only presents the theoretical principles, but also presents real-world strategies to exemplify them. Libraries can follow these approaches to expand their collection, improve access, share resources, and attract new users. This comprehensive guide includes all the checklists, case studies, sample agreements, and references needed to facilitate collaborative initiatives. -- M

39. Gilmore, W.J.
Beginning PHP and MySQL 5 : from novice to professional / W. Jason Gilmore. 2nd ed. Apress, ©2006. 913 p. 005.7585 GIL

Gilmore, in *Beginning PHP and MySQL 5 : from Novice to Professional*, has offered an easy-to-read manual for the upcoming Web developers looking for a powerful, low-cost solution for building a flexible and dynamic website. The title offers comprehensive information about two most prominent open source technologies – the PHP scripting language and the MySQL database server. It not only covers PHP 5 and MySQL 5, but also elaborates on how these two popular open source technologies work together to create powerful websites. Loaded with practical examples and insight into the real-world challenges, the author has gone that extra mile making sure that the readers understand the concepts and technology even if they have never had exposure to them. The author assumes no prior knowledge and begins from the very basics with easy to understand examples that guides through everything needed to get going. The book is very well written and extremely well organized focusing on all important topics. Literally, it covers everything that one might need to know about PHP and MySQL for most of his needs. -- C/M/ND

40. Jeney, Cynthia L.
Writing for the Web : a practical guide / Cynthia L. Jeney. Pearson Prentice Hall. 203 p. 005.72 JEN

Writing for the Web sites is an art in itself. *Writing for the Web: A Practical Guide* discusses the skills that drives the Web content writers. It

elaborates sound Web writing principles and discusses how technologies, interfaces, and data are impacted by the choices the writers make. Exercises, assignments, and case scenarios encourage readers to practice skills such as captioning photos, incorporating links and writing FAQ pages. Realistic projects further help readers in organizing contents and defining their purpose for writing to craft clear messages for powerful and lasting communication for the Web site visitors. The book focuses on planning and writing for audience-driven purposes. It discusses the concepts of identity, content development and emotional appeal. It promotes writers to explore professional, creative, and experimental approaches to writing and understand how technologies, interfaces, information, ideas, and data are affected by the choices they make. Written in simple, clear language and organized logically, the volume addresses the needs of those who have never realized that communication via the internet, specifically the Web, is about writing. It talks about the various writing situations encountered by the Web content writers. It emphasizes that the ultimate success of a Web site depends on a creative and motivating content. Thus, the words on a Web page must work. Although the book would interest anyone interested in mastering the art of communication through Web sites, it would be of special interest and highly useful to the webmasters and Web content writers. -- C/CH/M/ND

41. Kulagin, Boris.
3ds max 8 : from modeling to animation / Boris Kulagin. Alist, ©2006.
424 p. 006.693 KUL

3ds Max 8 : from Modeling to Animation intends to serve as a resource book for the designers and animators. Practical in its approach, the book incorporates skills from modeling a still life to animating photorealistic and fantasy characters in a variety of organic and mechanical backgrounds. It not only traces the basic techniques of 3D modeling and animation with 3ds Max 8, but also assists in creating a professional project. At the end of each lesson, comments and tips have been provided that help in improving the quality of output and avoiding common mistakes. Supporting files and other relevant resources have been included in the accompanying CD-ROM. -- C/CH/M/ND

42. Rothke, Ben.
Computer security : 20 things every employee should know / Ben Rothke. McGraw-Hill, ©2005. 48 p. 005.8 ROT

Securing corporate data in the workplace is no more just the sole responsibility of the IT staff. Computer security, which is a crucial priority today, is every employee's job. The companies, thus, need to train even the non-technical employees on security. *Computer Security* lists the risk, responsibility, and liabilities, of which every employ should be aware. It is a concise yet informative title on the computer and data security and can be used as a self contained security awareness program for a corporation, or at least as a component of a larger security awareness campaign. Written in pamphlet style, this book covers a broad range of important topics and in a language that is simple to understand and easy to follow. -- C/M/ND

43. Schildt, Herbert.
Swing : a beginner's guide / Herbert Schildt. McGraw-Hill, ©2007. 590 p. 005.437 SCH

This beginner's guide provides a completely integrated learning package for the Swing programmers and is a good blend of both theory and practical coding. Ideal for self-study and classroom teaching, this fast-paced guide shows how to develop sophisticated user interfaces with Swing. It elaborates Swing's architecture, design philosophy, and core concepts followed by Swing component set including buttons, check boxes, lists, trees, tables, menus, scroll bars, spinners, and scroll panes. Fundamentals and techniques for using each component is explained and demonstrated with the help of appropriate examples. -- C/CH/M/ND

LAW

44. Consumer protection handbook. ABA, Section of Antitrust Law, ©2004. 137 p REF 343.73071 CON

This concise guide to the basic principles of consumer protection law is oriented towards those legal practitioners who are non-specialists in consumer protection law. Written in the American perspective, the emphasis of this handbook is on the laws pertaining to false advertising, unfair and deceptive trade practices, and privacy. It provides general principles on the

most important consumer protection laws, an overview of the avenues available to the potential complainant and the risk faced by a potential defendant. It offers a good starting point for further research on the topic. -- (For use only in the Library) C

45. Intellectual property and development : lessons from recent economic research / edited by Carsten Fink and Keith E. Maskus. World Bank, ©2005. 339 p. 346.048 INT

International policies towards protecting intellectual property rights have seen profound changes over the past two decades. Rules on how to protect patents, copyright, trademarks and other forms of intellectual property have become a standard component of international trade agreements. In this volume, economic researchers at or affiliated with the World Bank explore the international economic implications of the intellectual property rules mandated by the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Agreement on Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). They consider intellectual property in terms of trade, foreign direct investment, and international licensing; exhaustion and parallel trade; and market structure and innovation. -- C
(Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2005)

LITERATURE & LANGUAGE

46. Asian American poetry : the next generation ; edited by Victoria Chang ; foreword by Marilyn Chin. University of Illinois Press, ©2004. 194 p. 811 ASI

Asian American Poetry is a collection of the best works of the new Asian American poets including traditional and experimental poets. This anthology is the first ever attempt to profile a new generation of Asian American poets. Nearly two hundred pages of poetry by twenty-eight poets have been included, much of which has never before been published or has appeared only in hard-to-find journals and first books of poetry. Notable for their ambition in subject matter, style, and voice, the poems use fresh, innovative language to express universal human emotions as well as ethically distinctive experiences and perceptions. Poets featured here are from different ethnic backgrounds and with different concerns and perspectives. Some of them have followed the trends of their predecessors while others have opted to break the shackle of conventional pattern. Some of the featuring poets include

Timothy Liu, Adrienne Su, Sue Kwock Kim, Rick Barot, Brenda Shaughnessy, Mong-Lan, as well as less familiar names. These poems indeed expand the scope of American literature and lay a fresh groundwork for readers. -- M/ND

47. The Bedford introduction to literature : reading, thinking, writing / [edited by] Michael Meyer. 7th ed. Bedford/St. Martins, ©2005. 2189 p. REF 808 BED

This anthology is a combination of generous and vibrant selection of stories, poems, and plays with editorial features to help students read, think, and write effectively about literature. Written in easy-to-understand plain English, the title encompasses thought provoking works by major authors that is sure to inspire students to become lifelong readers of imaginative literature and also impart skills to become an effective writer. The book is loaded with many different teaching styles including unique portfolios, a CD-ROM, and book's companion Web site. Sample student papers and assignments appear at the end of each selection. A glossary of more than 200 literary terms central to the study of literature provides thorough explanation of the concepts. -- (For use only in the Library) C/CH/M/ND

48. Burroway, Janet.
Imaginative writing : the elements of craft / Janet Burroway. 2nd ed. Pearson/Longman, ©2007. 402 p. 808 BUR

The purpose of *Imaginative Writing* is to provide a workable and energizing multigenre text for basic creative writing course. It first discusses the elements of craft common to all creative writing and then delves in to the individual genres – creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and drama. This unique approach gives students the liberty to experiment with the various creative techniques shared by all genres before deciding which form best suits their imagination. To further enhance their writing skills, a unique “Try-This” exercises have been given, which are linked to particular aspects of the topic. Similarly, “Working Toward a Draft” exercises are also given, which encourage students to think ahead about the direction and possibilities of their work. It is an invaluable resource book for the aspiring creative writers. -- C/CH/M/ND

49. Clark, Mary Higgins.
Two little girls in blue / Mary Higgins Clark. Simon & Schuster,
©2006. 322 p. CLA

Clark's *Two Little Girls in Blue* is a chilling tale of kidnapping, murder and telepathy. Before leaving for a black-tie affair in New York City, Margaret and Steve Frawley celebrate the third birthday of their twin girls, Kathy and Kelly, with a party at their new home in Ridgefield, Connecticut. Later that night, when Margaret can't reach the babysitter, she contacts the Ridgefield police. The frantic couple returns home to find the children missing and a ransom note demanding eight million dollars. Though the Frawleys meet all the conditions, only Kelly turns up in a car along with a dead driver and a suicide note saying that Kathy has died. But Kelly's telepathic messages from her sister keep telling her differently, and Margaret won't give up hope. Even the most skeptical law enforcement officers and the FBI, who pursue suspects from New York to Cape Cod, begin to believe Kelly is on to something. Clues from ordinary people lead to a riveting conclusion. -- C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

50. Fisher, Karen.
A sudden country : a novel / Karen Fisher. Random House, ©2005.
366 p. FIS

This is a vivid and revelatory novel based on actual events of the 1847 Oregon migration. In this compelling account of life on the Oregon Trail and the waning days of the fur trade, newcomer Fisher offers a literary masterpiece. The book's entwined narratives follow Lucy Mitchell, one of the author's forebears, and James MacLaren, a former Hudson Bay Company man who has lost his half-breed children to smallpox. When Lucy's imperious husband signs on with a group heading for Oregon, she reluctantly leaves her Iowa home to trek across the country with their four children, including a babe in arms. She and MacLaren meet when he joins their wagon train as a guide under questionable circumstances. Lucy soon senses a connection with MacLaren's sorrow. While Fisher's depiction of the West's grandeur is masterly, she approaches description obliquely, as would a poet, whether she is portraying a fleeting image from the natural world or the novel's major events. Powerful as the historical notes are, the novel's themes of love and connection, resolution of grief, and the wantonness of civilization transcend the Western genre to resonate with all readers. -- C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

51. Kostova, Elizabeth.
The historian : a novel / Elizabeth Kostova. Little, Brown, ©2005.
642 p. KOS

In 1972, a 16-year-old American girl living in Amsterdam finds a mysterious book in her diplomat father's library. The book is ancient, blank except for a sinister woodcut of a dragon and the word "Drakulya," but it's the letters tucked inside, dated 1930 and addressed to "My dear and unfortunate successor," that really pique her curiosity. Her widowed father, Paul, reluctantly provides pieces of a chilling story; it seems this ominous little book has a way of forcing itself on its owners, with terrifying results. Paul's former adviser at Oxford, Professor Rossi, became obsessed with researching Dracula and was convinced that he remained alive. When Rossi disappeared, Paul continued his quest with the help of another scholar, Helen, who had her own reasons for seeking the truth. As Paul relates these stories to his daughter, she secretly begins her own research. Kostova builds suspense by revealing the threads of her story as the narrator discovers them: what she's told, what she reads in old letters and, of course, what she discovers directly when the legendary threat of Dracula looms. Along with all the fascinating historical information, there's also a mounting casualty count, and the big showdown amps up the drama by pulling at the heartstrings at the same time it revels in the gruesome. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

52. The science fiction century. v. 1. / edited by David G. Hartwell. 1st trade pbk. ed. Orb, 2006. 511 p. SCI

Science fiction is the genre that stands in opposition to literary modernism and reflects the paraliterary shadow of modernism. Originally published in 1997, *The Science Fiction Century* is an ambitious attempt to pack 100 years of science fiction into one anthology. This anthology contains selected short stories, mostly post-World War II and mostly American, representing the earliest writers in the genre (H.G. Wells, C.S. Lewis), Golden Age authors (Poul Anderson, A.E. Van Vogt), hard science and cyberpunk writers (William Gibson, Bruce Sterling), women authors (James Tiptree Jr., Connie Willis), and writers known outside science fiction (Michael Shaara, E.M. Forster). In his introduction, Hartwell places science fiction in the context of literary history and prefaces each story with a short biographical and bibliographical essay. This definitive collection will make great reading for all literary inclined readers. -- C/CH/M/ND

53. Shapiro, Anna.
Living on air : a novel / Anna Shapiro. Soho Press, ©2006. 261 p.
SHA

Maude Pugh is born and bred in 1960s suburban Long Island, in a "houseful of failures, each feeling terrible and trying to make the next one feel worse." Her domineering, self-involved father, Milt, is a struggling artist who paints every room in their house black as a dramatic backdrop to his brightly colored modernist canvases. Maude's mother, Nina, is defensive with the rich neighbors she fears are her social superiors and resentful of her daughter for outshining Maude's disaffected older brother, Seth, who flees home at 16. Although Maude, whom Shapiro tracks through her teen years, aspires to be an artist in her own right, she also lusts after the good life exemplified by Milt's upscale art students, matrons swathed in expensive silk scarves "as intricately patterned as illuminated manuscripts." So Maude secures a short-lived scholarship to Bay Farm, a pricey prep school where she befriends Weesie, a child of privilege who thinks poverty is romantic, and gives her heart to Danny, who eventually betrays her. Shapiro is well versed in the cultures of adolescence. The plot has none of the loss-of-innocence rhetoric or false family resolutions that characterize the genre. Shapiro, in this novel of hers, is finely attuned to the self-consciousness and vulnerability of adolescence, and the slippery elision of money and sophistication. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

54. Southgate, Martha.
Third girl from the left / Martha Southgate. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
272 p. SOU

At the center of this novel is Angela, black, beautiful, headstrong, and utterly determined to make it as a Hollywood actress in 1970. She flees Tulsa, Oklahoma, after a childhood spent watching movies with her star-struck mother and gets drawn into the blaxploitation film boom. Hollywood's big bargaining chip-sexuality-never quite delivers the hoped-for big roles, leaving Angela stranded in bit parts. Roommate Sheila is marginally more successful, and soon the two find with each other the stable love that is missing from their roller-coaster scramble for parts. Then Angela's unexpected pregnancy by Rafe, a fellow black actor, spins the two women out of the movies and into regular jobs. When Angela is summoned home 30 years later to tend to her 91-year-old mother, she brings along daughter Tamara, a budding film director. There, the three women come full circle as Tamara films her grandmother's

oral history, setting in motion the kind of healing that comes from uncovering lost secrets and family tragedies. Southgate writes with a clear-eyed sensitivity of the faceless people who helped make possible the careers of today's successful African American superstars. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

55. Thiher, Allen.
Fiction refracts science : modernist writers from Proust to Borges / Allen Thiher. University of Missouri Press, ©2005. 297 p. 809.9 THI

Fiction Refracts Science investigates the relationship between science and the fiction developed by Modernist, including Musil, Proust, Kafka, and Joyce. Demonstrating that most of the modernists were strongly influenced by their concern with the sciences, Allen Thiher argues that there are direct relations between science and the formal shape of fiction developed by some of the most important modernists. Specialists in literary modernism, science studies, and the history of science, as well as to scientists themselves would find this book of special interest. -- M

56. Tyler, Anne.
Digging to America : a novel / Anne Tyler. Alfred A. Knopf, ©2006. 277 p. TYL

In her 17th novel, Anne Tyler demonstrates her skill at depicting seemingly quiet and unremarkable lives with sympathy and humor. The story concentrates on two middle-class couples who meet when their adopted Korean daughters arrive on the same flight from Asia. Initially the new parents appear to have little in common other than the infants. The Donaldsons, who have waited many years for a child, personify stereotypical American white-bread suburbia, while the younger Yazdans are linked to a large and lively Iranian immigrant community. As years pass and the annual multicultural "arrival party" for the little girls becomes a shared tradition, the families and their sometimes eccentric relatives become ever more closely linked. Several perspectives spotlight the various characters' small misunderstandings, larger hurts, and shared moments of warmth, especially those between dignified grandmother Maryam Yazdan and a recently widowed member of the Donaldson clan, whose brief romance threatens the established web of relationships. The title is a touching, well-crafted tale of friendship, families, and what it means to be an American. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2006)

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

57. The Blackwell guide to the philosophy of religion / edited by William E. Mann. Blackwell Publishing, 2005. 335 p. 210 BLA

The Blackwell Guide to the Philosophy of Religion is a brilliant anthology featuring fourteen sophisticated but accessible essays written by some of the most prominent philosophers on the central topic of philosophy of religion. These essays are state-of-the-art discussions of the central issues in the tremendously lively field of contemporary philosophy of religion. Contributors include Linda Zagzebski, Hugh J. McCann, Brian Leftow, Gareth B. Matthews, William L. Rowe, Elliott Sober, Derk Pereboom, Alfred J. Freddoso, William P. Alston, William J. Wainwright, Peter van Inwagen, Philip Kitcher, William E. Mann, and Philip L. Quinn. The volume investigates questions regarding the nature of God, the existence of God, religious belief, and the impact of religion on our secular lives. The essays are highly accessible and are comprehensive treatment of the major problems in philosophy of religion posing insights and furthering the discussion. The guide is an essential resource for both students and teachers alike, putting them and any other reader in touch with cutting-edge work in this field. -- M

58. Feezell, Randolph M.
Sport, play, and ethical reflection / Randolph Feezell. University of Illinois Press, ©2004. 173 p. 175 FEE

Sport, Play, and Ethical Reflection is a thought-provoking book that offers an insightful treatment of central issues in the philosophy of sport. A philosopher and an athlete, Randolph Feezell knows his subject very well. He argues that sports participation is best described as a form of human play, and the attraction for both the participants and the viewers derives from both its aesthetic richness and narrative structure. Rejecting the trivial pursuits in sports, he emphasizes that the participation requires a state of irony in participants, where both seriousness and playfulness should be combined. -- C/M

59. Moore, James P.
One nation under God : the history of prayer in America / James P. Moore, Jr. Doubleday, ©2005. 519 p. 248.32 MOO

One Nation Under God is a terrific blend of American history and spirituality that paints a stunning portrait of American heritage. In this book, Moore touches upon a subject that was never explored earlier. He vividly brings alive the role that prayer has played in every area of American life, and how it has always been intertwined with America's cultural life. He casts a broad net, beginning with Native American prayers before European colonization and culminating with the prayers of Americans after 9/11. He attends not only to prayers said around tables and in houses of worship but also to the way that the arts contribute to prayer: in the 19th century, artists like Thomas Cole penned prayers in art journals, and 20th-century Jewish composer Leonard Bernstein wrote a symphony that meditated on the Jewish kaddish. Indeed, Moore has really written a history of religion in America told through the lens of prayer; for example, his discussion of Shaker prayer is embedded in a discussion of Shakers' place in America's 19th-century religious landscape. Moore also addresses American policy about prayer, charting Supreme Court decisions about prayer in school. While presenting the history of prayer in America and history of America through its prayers and spiritual practices, Moore exhibits that without prayer, the political, cultural, social, and even economic and military history of the United States would have been vastly different from what it is today. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from Publishers Weekly, ©2005)

POLITICAL SCIENCE

60. Brookhiser, Richard.
What would the founders do? : our questions, their answers / Richard Brookhiser. Basic Books, ©2006. 261 p. 973.931 BRO

It might be thought that nothing new could be said about America's founding fathers, in the midst of the contemporary avalanche of tomes about Washington, Jefferson and other early American leaders. But Rick Brookhiser describes the views of the architects of the American republic in an entertaining and informative way. Combining the skills of a first-rate writer with those of a medium at a séance, Brookhiser channels the spirits of eminent early Americans in discussing contemporary public debates. At times, Brookhiser has to stretch to find an analogy between the era of the founders

and today, such as his comparison between stem cell research and the old practice of robbing graves for medical research. Should the United States attempt to spread democracy around the world? Brookhiser makes a case for the caution of Alexander Hamilton rather than the optimism of Thomas Jefferson. The war on drugs? "The founders would not have fought a war on drugs," but would have taxed them instead, Brookhiser declares, reasoning from the excise tax on whiskey imposed by the federal government. What would the founders do about Social Security? "Social Security follows none of their models (family provision, charity, reward for service, investment)." The book reveals that many of the public policy questions confronting the early American republic are similar to challenges Americans wrestle with today. The values of 18th-century Americans, by contrast, were radically different and benighted by modern standards. The founders took a male-dominated society for granted, though Hamilton was willing to consider sweatshop work for women. With a rare union of wit and scholarship, *What Would the Founders Do?* presents history as a source of continuing debates, rather than as a set of answers. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2006)

61. Farmer, David John.
To kill the king : post-traditional governance and bureaucracy / David John Farmer. M.E. Sharpe, 2005. 215 p. 351.01 FAR

David John Farmer illustrates the features of a new consciousness for democratic governance and revolutionizes the subject of public administration. He offers 18 essays intended to create a post-traditional consciousness that can revitalize governance and bureaucracy, and to explore constitutive features of the consciousness that privileges the imagination. He warns readers to pursue them in order, because the voice changes in later chapters as it incorporates ideas from earlier ones. In general, they cover thinking as play, justice as seeking, and practice as art. -- M (Adapted from *Book News, Inc.*, ©2005)

62. Kaye, Harvey J.
Thomas Paine and the promise of America / by Harvey J. Kaye. Hill and Wang, ©2005. 326 p. 320.51 PAI

This provocative book is as much a call to action as a standard biography. Through roughly the first half, Kaye discusses Paine's profound impact in America and Europe from the 1770s to the 1790s. By the turn of the century, Paine's support of the French Revolution and deistic attacks on

established churches made him anathema to many Americans. Kaye then charts Paine's subsequent reputation during the 19th and early 20th centuries, when most political, religious, and business leaders erroneously condemned him as a drunkard, anarchist, Socialist, and atheist. At the same time, labor organizers, farmers' alliances, abolitionists, civil rights leaders, suffragists, populists, and individuals from Ralph Waldo Emerson to Eugene V. Debs were deeply influenced by him. Last, responding to the current tide of conservatism in politics and religion, Kaye urges readers to revive Paine's fervent espousal of tolerance and social justice. He goes a bit too far in finding Paine's influence in everything "good" that has happened in the past two centuries, but he does a fine job of tracing Paine's impact upon a wide variety of causes. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

63. Kotz, Nick.
Judgment days : Lyndon Baines Johnson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the laws that changed America / Nick Kotz. 1st Mariner Books ed.
 Houghton Mifflin, ©2005. 522 p. 323 KOT

Judgment Days presents a thorough account of the complex working relationship between Lyndon Baines Johnson and Martin Luther King, Jr., and traces both leaders' paths, from Johnson's assumption of the presidency in 1963 to King's assassination five years later. Theirs was a wary alliance that became instrumental in producing some of the most substantial civil rights legislation in American history – the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Kotz demonstrates on the basis of some newly available sources and observes the forces that drew the charismatic men together and those that eventually drove them apart. Kotz's detailed and gripping account takes readers into the bloody trenches of the Civil Rights movement and the bitter congressional floor battles to get legislation past the segregationist bloc. It is a fascinating portrait of the two leaders working at a time when the low skullduggery of politics really was infused with the highest moral values. Kotz's incisive examination significantly enriches our understanding of both men. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

64. Quester, George H.
Nuclear first strike : consequences of a broken taboo / George H. Quester. Johns Hopkins University Press, ©2006. 159 p.
355.0217 QUE

This impressive book has been published well in time exploring the political, psychological, and social aftermath of a nuclear conflict. It tries to evaluate the occasions that can lead to the deployment of nuclear weapons. Instead of measuring the physical damage potential of a nuclear weapon, it looks into the prospect of a nuclear attack in future, and what can be done to avoid such situation. Quester suggests that a considerate evaluation of possible outcome of nuclear deployment can help achieve this goal. Highly provocative and impressive piece of work, this insightful book explores a wide range of possibilities providing a starting point for informed and focused reflection and preparation. -- C/CH/M/ND

PSYCHOLOGY

65. Pink Daniel H.
A whole new mind : moving from the information age to the conceptual age / Daniel H. Pink. Riverhead Books, ©2005. 260 p.
158 PIN

Just as information workers surpassed physical laborers in economic importance, Pink claims, the workplace terrain is changing yet again, and power this time will inevitably shift to people who possess strong right brain qualities. His advocacy of "R-directed thinking" begins with a bit of neuroscience tourism to a brain lab. Pink is more concerned with how certain skill sets can be harnessed effectively in the dawning "Conceptual Age." The second half of the book details the six "senses" Pink identifies as crucial to success in the new economy – design, story, symphony, empathy, play and meaning – while "portfolio" sections offer practical advice on how to cultivate these skills within oneself. These people will now reap society's richest rewards and share its greatest joys. Pink offers a fresh look at what it takes for individuals and organizations to excel. Pink also offers several hands-on exercises and examples culled from experts to help readers sharpen the necessary abilities. The impact of what Pink presents can not only change the way we see the world but also how we experience it as well. -- C/CH/M/ND
(Adapted from *Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

66. Barnes, Ethne.
Diseases and human evolution / Ethne Barnes. University of New Mexico Press, ©2005. 484 p. 614.4 BAR

This book is a fascinating account of the human diseases – their origination and evolution. Barnes offers a general overview of various diseases and their carriers – from insects and worms through rodent vectors to household pets and farm animals. Using information from history and medicine as well as from anthropology, she attempts to answer the questions about the evolution of pathogens from microorganisms, changes in the orientation of the infections diseases and their control. She focuses on the changing pattern of human behavior through cultural evolution and their effect on the development of human diseases. -- M

67. Kruger, Paul.
Alternative energy resources : the quest for sustainable energy / Paul Kruger. John Wiley, ©2006. 248 p. 621.042 KRU

As the name suggests, this title attempts to seek an answer to the ever-increasing energy crisis. Given the need to move away from petroleum, the book explores humanity's increasing need for energy and the various energy sources that might provide solution to our energy requirements in the future. Tracing the history of energy usage, from the industrial revolution to that of the present day, it is evident that there has been an exponential expansion of our energy use. Fossil fuels like petroleum and its variants have their own limitations. This calls for a quest in the direction of alternate sources of energy. Paul Kruger does exactly that in this thought-provoking title. He analyses the various alternate energy sources including nuclear, hydrogen, solar and wind power. He assesses the pros and cons of these alternate sources and finally proposes the use of hydrogen as a fuel to sustain our energy supply produced by appropriate technology mixtures of renewable and nuclear energy. The book looks into the various opportunities to achieve a sustainable world energy supply with acceptable environmental impacts both globally and locally. -- C/CH/M/ND

68. Pahl, Greg.
Biodiesel : growing a new energy economy / Greg Pahl. Chelsea Green Pub., ©2005. 281 p. 662.669 PAH

Shortly before his mysterious death in 1923, motor engine inventor Rudolph Diesel argued that the "use of vegetable oils for engine fuels may seem insignificant today, but such oils may become, in the course of time, as important as petroleum and the coal-tar products of the present time." Championing that vision, Pahl describes the historical development of biodiesel. Biodiesel is a crop-derivative liquid fuel that can be made from a wide variety of renewable, locally grown plant sources. The technology is simple and the benefits are enormous, as both a cleaner-burning vehicle fuel and a source for residential or commercial heating. He assesses the current state of this renewable fuel industry. Along the way he describes the processes of biodiesel production, explores its environmental impact, looks at the use of biodiesel fuels in Europe and the United States, and explains the complex politics surrounding biodiesel projects. Although biodiesel is not the answer to all our energy problems, it is definitely an important step in the process of weaning ourselves from fossil fuels. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Book News, Inc., ©2004*)

69. Separations for the nuclear fuel cycle in the 21st century / Gregg J. Lumetta, editor ... [et al.]. American Chemical Society, ©2006. 348 p. 621.48335 SEP

One of the greatest challenges confronting 21st century would be to ensure availability of energy supplies in the light of global climatic change and decreasing availability of clean fossil fuels. The possible answer to this threat could be to harness the fission-based nuclear power, which produces virtually no greenhouse gas emissions. However, exploiting fission-based nuclear power to contribute to our energy requirements is bound to raise issues like plant operational efficiency improvements, licensing geological repositories for waste isolation, recycling of spent nuclear fuels, and reducing long-term radiotoxicity of the wastes. This book is based on a symposium titled *Separations for the Nuclear Fuel Cycle in the 21st Century*, held at the 227th American Chemical society (ACS) National Meeting in March 2004. The symposium tried to assess the contemporary state-of-the art in nuclear separations science and technology. It also tried to identify the research & development directions to meet the 21st century demands for waste minimization, environmental protection, safety, and security. While the expansion of fission-based nuclear power would help reduce the potential for global warming, future development of the nuclear fuel cycle must

also be weighed against the issues of proliferation and management of irradiated fuel. -- C/CH/M/ND

SOCIOLOGY

70. Barakso, Maryann.
Governing NOW : grassroots activism in the National Organization for Women / Maryann Barakso. Cornell University Press, ©2004. 192 p. 305.42 BAR

In *Governing NOW*, Barakso has presented a brief and accessible history of the National Organization for Women (NOW), the first group of the "second wave" of feminism and still the primary women's movement association. Barakso frames her discussion with a modest analysis of organizational structure and dynamics, but the heart of the book focuses on almost 40 years of American politics and players within the organization. Relying on documentary research and interviews, Barakso offers a largely favorable assessment, although she notes that NOW's insistence on being the "vanguard" feminist organization limits its impact on the legislative process. But NOW's ostensible radicalism takes the form of fighting for a constitutional amendment and appointments of women to federal positions, establishing political action committees (PACs), and raising money to elect feminists to office, which dramatically reveals the narrow limits of American political discourse. -- C/CH/M/ND (Adapted from *Library Journal*, ©2005)

71. Globalization : culture and education in the new millennium / edited by Marcelo M. Suarez-Orozco and Desiree Baolian Qin-Hilliard. University of California Press, ©2004. 275 p. 303.482 GLO

Modern era is defined by the forces of globalization. Nearly every aspect of our life including our job, culture, relationships etc, is affected by the profound forces of globalization. Based on the Harvard-Ross Seminar on Education for Globalization, *Globalization: Culture and Education in the New Millennium* elaborates how globalization and large-scale immigration are affecting the education of children and youth. This is a brilliant collection of essays by the leading social scientists in their fields, which highlights the urgency of rethinking about the challenges and opportunities posed by the globalization to the education and educators. These essays explore why new

and broader global visions are needed to educate children and youth to be informed, engaged, and critical citizens in the new millennium. -- CH

72. Ruling America : a history of wealth and power in a democracy / edited by Steve Fraser & Gary Gerstle. Harvard University Press, ©2005. 368 p. 305.52 RUL

Ruling America offers a panoramic history of America's ruling elites since the time of the American Revolution to the present. Even in a nation founded on the principles of freedom and equality, small, motivated groups wield inordinate amounts of power. In this series of thought-provoking essays, 11 leading scholars of American history examine every epoch in which ruling economic elites have shaped American national experience. They explore how elites came into existence, established their dominance over public affairs, and how their rule came to an end. Each essay chronicles the myriad factors that led to the consolidation of power by them, and then explains the internal divisions and external changes that led to their downfall and empowerment of their successors. The volume captures the essence of varied eras and their elites. Curiously, the editors conclude that despite 200 years of cyclical history, no current challenge is arising to overthrow the currently prevailing corporate-led counter-revolution against the New Deal. -- C/CH/M/ND (*Adapted from Publishers Weekly*, ©2005)

73. Sherman, Howard J.
How society makes itself : the evolution of political and economic institutions / Howard J. Sherman. M.E. Sharpe, ©2006. 236 p. 306 SHE

Sherman traces the evolution of society from prehistoric communal institutions in the Middle East through Western Europe to the U.S. under global capitalism in 2004. This radical account of the evolution of political, social, and economic institutions weaves together strands of anthropology, sociology, political science, history, and economics into a coherent and compelling story. Sherman explains the interconnections of these ideas and economic forces. This breathtaking book cuts across all of the social science disciplines and history. Although it is intended for the general readers, the accounts incorporated in it could also serve as an introductory text to social evolution in any of the relevant disciplines. -- CH/M/ND

74. Smith, Stephen C.
Ending global poverty : a guide to what works / Stephen C. Smith.
Palgrave Macmillan, 2005. 259 p. 339.46 SMI

The statistics of the global poverty is very disappointing. But recent economic growth in some very poor countries has seen an enormous reduction in world poverty. In *Ending Global Poverty*, Stephen Smith gives readers the tools they need to allocate their charitable giving among the numerous worthy-sounding groups that aim to reduce poverty. The author takes readers to the rural areas and urban slums for a close-up view of innovative and effective programs that make the real difference. The book provides sensible guidelines to both individuals and corporations about how they can play a constructive role in addressing the problem of global poverty. This book is a vital resource and guide for those who are socially sensible and willing to offer their individual input to make a difference. -- CH/M

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